

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION
FROM EXPORT CONTROL OF
AUSTRALIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE OBJECTS**

WHAT IS MOVABLE CULTURAL HERITAGE?

Australia's movable cultural heritage is protected by legislation which controls the export of important cultural heritage objects, so that our irreplaceable heritage is not lost to the nation forever.

Not all cultural heritage objects can be exported. Objects subject to export control are of exceptional importance in the development of Australian society and culture.

Two categories of material are controlled:

Class A Objects:

consist of Victoria Cross medals awarded to Australian servicemen as listed at Part V11A in the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Amendments Regulations 1998 and Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander:

- bark and log coffins
- human remains
- rock art
- dendroglyphs (carved trees)
- sacred and secret ritual objects

These objects cannot be exported unless they are already located outside Australia and a Certificate of Exemption to import and later export them is obtained.

Class B Objects:

are those of exceptional cultural significance to Australia and need a permit to be exported or a Certificate of Exemption to be imported and re-exported. There are 9 categories:

- Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage
- Archaeology
- Natural Science
- Applied Science or Technology
- Fine or Decorative Arts
- Documentary Heritage
- Numismatics (coins)
- Philately (stamps)
- Historical Significance

HOW TO APPLY

This form covers material already outside Australia. Fill it in if you wish to bring a protected Australian cultural heritage object into Australia temporarily, and later take it back overseas.

If you obtain a Certificate of Exemption, the object(s) which you wish to re-export will be exempt from the export controls under the *Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986* (the Act).

If you wish to export an object of cultural heritage significance which is still within Australia, you should fill in the Application for a Permit to Export Cultural Heritage Objects (Form PMCH 1).

If you wish to apply for a change to the conditions on a Permit or Certificate of Exemption (for example to extend the time limit) you should fill in the application form on the back of the issued Permit (Form PMCH 3) or on the back of the issued Certificate of Exemption (Form PMCH 4).

Copies of the Act and the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Regulations (Amendment) may also be obtained from Environment Australia.

Please note that it is not necessary to answer every question in the form. If you do not have specific details, only include the information you have available, no matter how approximate (for example probable dates of return of objects going overseas). If there is insufficient information to process the application the Department will contact you.

IF YOU NEED MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Director, Movable Cultural Heritage Unit
Environment Australia
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601
AUSTRALIA

Telephone (02) 6274 1810 within Australia; 61 2 6274 1810 if dialing from overseas.
Facsimile (02) 6274 2731 within Australia; 61 2 6274 2731 if faxing from overseas.

Email: movable.heritage@ea.gov.au

Website: <http://www.ea.gov.au/heritage/awh/movable/index.html>

Please print clearly in black ink:

- If you wish to import an identified **collection** of objects, or more than one example of a single type of object, or an exhibition, you only need to fill in one form. You must then specify the contents of the collection on a sheet to be attached to this form. It is possible that the Minister may grant a certificate of exemption for only some of these objects and refuse a permit for others.
- Please attach a photograph of the actual object(s) [see instructions under Description of Object(s)].
- If the space provided in the boxes is too small, please attach a separate sheet.

DESCRIPTION OF OBJECTS

4. Please complete this page for each object you wish to export. You may photocopy the page or ask the Department for additional copies. In the case of very large collections, such as stamps or recent archaeological finds, complete one page for the entire collection and attach a separate list identifying each particularly significant item and its value.

What is it?

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What size is it?

What age is it?

.....

When and where was it made or found?

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Who made or found it?

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When was it exported from Australia?

.....

What is its current market value?

(Please state which currency you are using, for example: \$A, \$US, DM, Yen)

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Give details of any publication in which it has been listed or photographed.

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Does it have any distinguishing marks? (For Example: Permanently fixed accession number, serial number or engine number; indelible manufacturer's name, mark or model; engraved name; signature; visible damage and/or repair.)

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Other information: (Include its rarity or importance, if known)

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An expert examiner may ask you for more information later.

5. **Photograph Requirements** For single objects a photograph is required. A black-and-white or colour photographic print is sufficient. A snapshot is acceptable provided that the object is clearly visible and identifiable. A clear photocopy of a photograph of the object(s) published in a book or catalogue may be adequate. Please note that for natural science objects, a photo of the actual specimen or in the case of a collection, a representative sample must be included

For collections, one photographic print of the most rare or significant examples is sufficient. Large collections may be inspected.

6. Why do you wish to import the object temporarily?

Tick the relevant box then give details in the space below

- Temporary exhibition
- Research
- Repair, restoration or conservation
- Appraisal or valuation
- Owner temporarily living in Australia
- Other

Give Details:

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7. When is the object(s) expected to arrive in Australia?

Month/year:

8. When is the object(s) expected to return overseas?

Month/year:

YOUR STATEMENT

It is important for you to sign and date this form below

Note: It is an offence under Section 42 of the *Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986* to knowingly make a false statement or provide a false document.

I declare that all information given in this application is correct. I understand that, if a certificate of exemption to import and re-export is granted, the certificate shall only be used for the import and subsequent export of the object(s) described on this application and its attachments during the time period shown on this application.

Signed Dated

WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED AND SIGNED THIS FORM, PLEASE SEND IT TO:

Director, Movable Cultural Heritage Unit
Environment Australia
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601
AUSTRALIA

or fax to: (02) 6274 2731; 61 2 6274 2731 if faxing from overseas.

If you need more information, please write to the above address or contact

Telephone (02) 6274 1810 within Australia; 61 2 6274 1810 if dialing from overseas.

Email: movable.heritage@ea.gov.au

Website: <http://www.ea.gov.au/heritage/awh/movable/index.html>

Please provide an estimate of the time taken to complete this form

Include

- The time actually spent reading the instructions, working on the question and obtaining the information
- The time spent by all employees in collecting and providing this information

hrs

mins

This form has been approved by the Minister in accordance with Sub-section 10(2)
of the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986